

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W

-----010220Z 130001 /64

R 312345Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0014

INFO TRSY WASHDC

ALL US CONSULATES IN MEXICO BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 1154

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, CI, MX

SUBJ: UNION HEAD VELASQUEZ ATTACKS BISHOP MENDEZ AND HIS
FOLLOWERS

1. SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CTM FIDEL FELASQUEZ ISSUED A STRONG ATTACK ON THE "SO-CALLED INDEPENDENT" TRADE UNION FORCES WHICH "ARE ACTUALLY MANIPULATED BY THE CLERGY" AND URGED HIS AUDIENCE, THE MORELOS STATE FEDERATION OF THE CTM, TO CLOSE RANKS AGAINST THEM. VELASQUEZ USED HIS INAUGURATION OF THE MORELOS (CUERNAVACA) FEDERATION CONGRESS ON JAN 30, AS A FORUM TO RENEW HIS ATTACK ON HIS OLD ENEMY BISHOP SERGIO MENDEZ ARCEO. WHILE (AS REPORTED BY EXCELSIOR) HE DID NOT USE MENDEZ' NAME, HIS POINTED ATTACK ON THE CLERGY WHILE ON THE BISHOPS'S HOME GROUND OF CUERNAVACA WAS OBVIOUS.

2. VELASQUEZ WARNED THAT FORCES OF THE "TENDENCIA DEMOCRATICA", THE AUTHENTIC WORKER'S FRONT (FRENTE AUTENTICO DE TRABAJO - FAT), AND THE ACCION PUPULAR INSTIGATED BY THE CLERGY "WILL CREATE, AND GOD WILL THAT I AM MISTAKEN, PROBLEMS OF THE MAGNITUDE OF 1968 AND THE LAST STAGES OF
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THE ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION" UNLESS THE "INSTITUTIONALIZED LABOR FORCES" UNITED TO CONFRONT THEM.

3. COMMENT: FIDEL'S WARNING WHILE STRONG BY EVEN MEXICAN STANDARDS PROBABLY SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS EVIDENCE THAT "CHRISTIAN" ELEMENTS OF LABOR HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT RECENT GAINS OR WORKER SUPPORT OR THAT THE

CTM AND "OFFICIAL" LABOR IS PLANNING ANY NEW MASSIVE ATTEMPT TO ORGANIZE THE UNORGANIZED OR RAID THE "INDEPENDENT" UNIONS. IN PART HIS CUERNAVACA PERFORMANCE CAN BE EXPLAINED AS TIC ATTACK ON HIS OLD AND BITTER ENEMY BISHOP MENDEZ WHOSE FOLLOWERS HAVE HAD RELATIVELY MORE SUCCESS AT ORGANIZING IN THE STATE OF MORELOS THAN THEY HAVE HAD IN OTHER PARTS OF MEXICO.

4. HIS CALL FOR SOLIDARITY OF THE INSTITUTIONALIZED MOVEMENT AGAINST LABOR'S AND THE LOPEZ ADMINISTRATION'S COMMON ENEMY IS NOT A NEW THEME BUT ONE WHICH IS BEING USED WITH INCREASED FREQUENCY AND VIGOR AT THE OUTSET OF LOPEZ' TERM. IT REINFORCES REPORTS THAT PRI LABOR HAS COMMITTED ITSELF TO A PERIOD (USUALLY REPORTED AS SIX MONTHS) OF WAGE RESTRAINT IN SUPPORT OF LOPEZ' AUSTERITY PROGRAM.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, LABOR OBJECTIVES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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